# Violent Death Surveillance in New Jersey

The New Jersey Violent Death Reporting System
The Center for Health Statistics, NJDHSS
The Violence Institute of New Jersey, UMDNJ

Violent Death Surveillance in New Jersey 2. Medical Examiner's Report: Provides information about manner 1.Death Certificate: Provides and circumstances of death. Source: information on cause of death, and LINK State M.E. Office (RIME), county demographic information about M.E. offices (autopsy and toxicology Victim. Source: NJDHSS reports.) 3. Police incident reports. Provide information on circumstances, suspects, weapon. Source: SHR from NJSP, UCR division. Police incident and homicide 5. Ballistics Lab: investigation reports from county prosecutors. Provides information, when available, on make, model, 4. Child Fatality Review Module: caliber, importer name, etc. Pilot module testing for CDC. Source: NJSP YES Provides information available from Child Victim? Child Fatality Review Board, re: involvement of DYFS, CFRB ruling. NO Source: CFRB YES 6. ATF Trace Firearm used? (optional) Provides info On firearm's history NO Case definition: Homicides, suicides, legal intervention, unintentional firearm fatalities, occurring within New Jersey or to New Jersey residents. Case complete

### Major data sources

- 1. Death Certificate
- 2. Medical Examiner's Reports
- 3. Police Incident Reports
- 4. Child Fatality Review Board
- 5. Ballistics Lab

NYDRS - [frmCaseEntry]  To Data Entry Restructure Reports Use	erTable Hain			_6 ×
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	(V) Person 2 Person 3 S-V Rela	tion   Weapon 1   Weapon 2   P-W F	Relation	⊟- da Incident - 14
The same of the sa	R Hosp   CFR   Abstractor			Documents
I_DC	ILC/WE	PR	SHR	Document 1 Document 2
Person type: 1	1 - Victim	Person type:	Person type:	Document 3
Last name:	2 - Suspect 3 - Both victim and suspect	Last name:		□ Document 4 □ Person 1 (V)
First name.	First name:	First name:		□ Identity
Middle name:	Middle name:	Middle name:		DC DC/ME
Social Security#	Social Security#:			PR PR
Date of birth:	Date of birth:			□ SHR □ Hosp
Age	Age:	Age:	Age:	CFR  Abstractor
Age unit.	Age unit:	Age unit:		□ 2 Person 2
Person's sex	Person's sex	Person's sex:	Person's sex	□ Identity □ ♣ Person 3
☐ White	☐ White	□ White	☐ White	□ Identity □ \$\frac{1}{2}\$ S-V Relation
□ Black	□ Black	□ Black	□ Black	□ C/ME
□ Asian	☐ Asian	□ Asian	☐ Asian	PR B SHR
☐ Pacific Islander	☐ Pacific Islander	☐ Pacific Islander	☐ Pacific Islander	- ₩ Weapon 1
☐ American Indian	☐ American Indian	☐ American Indian	☐ American Indian	₩ Weapon 2 B P-W Relation
□ Other	□ Other	□ Other	☐ Other	—□ ATF
☐ Unspecified	☐ Unspecified	☐ Unspecified	☐ Unspecified	C/ME PR
Hispanic origin:	Hispanic origin:	Hispanic origin:	Hispanic origin:	□ SHR
Address	Address:	Address:		
City.	City.	City:		
County:	County.	County:		
State:	State:	State:		
ZIP code:	ZIP code:	ZIP code:		
Country:	Country:	Country:		
US Census tract:	US Census tract:	US Census tract:		
US Census block group:	US Census block group:	US Census block group:		
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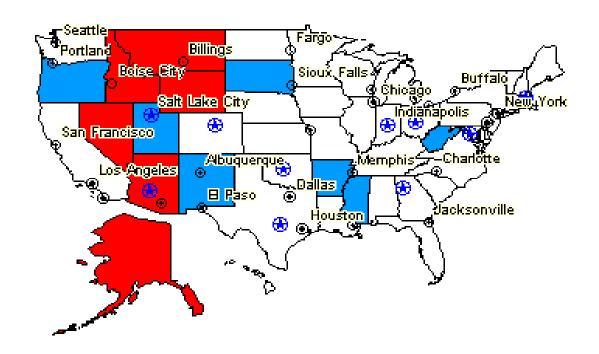
### New Jersey versus the U.S.

• New Jersey's homicide and suicide rates are lower than the national rates, and NJ is among the lowest suicide rates

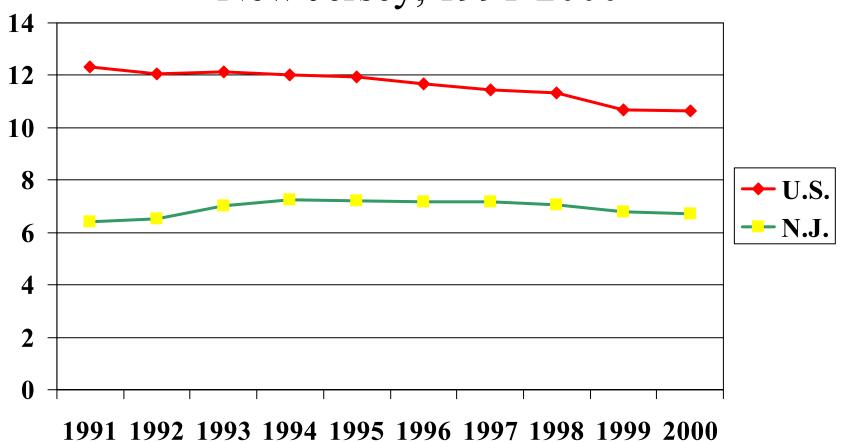
Sui	cides	Hom	nicides
New Jersey	United States	New Jersey	United States
6.71	10.64	4.05	6.19

Rates per 100,000 population, 2000 data

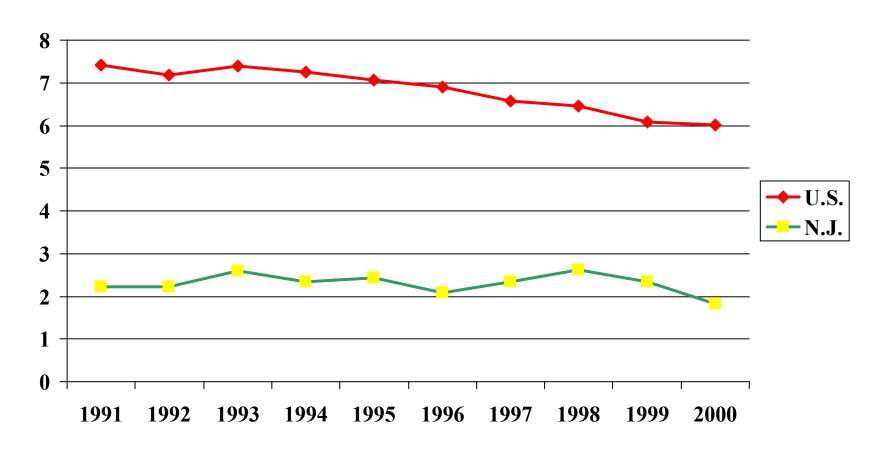
#### Suicides throughout the country



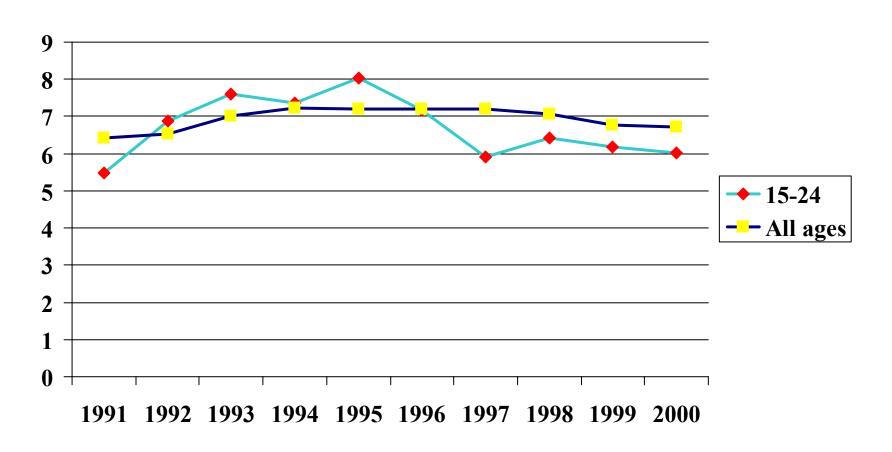
### Age-adjusted suicide rate, United States and New Jersey, 1991-2000



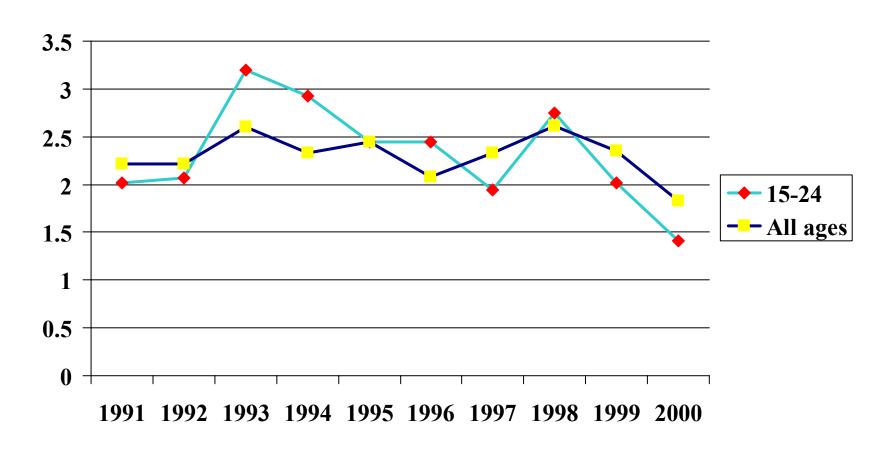
### Age-adjusted firearm suicide rate, United States and New Jersey, 1991-2000



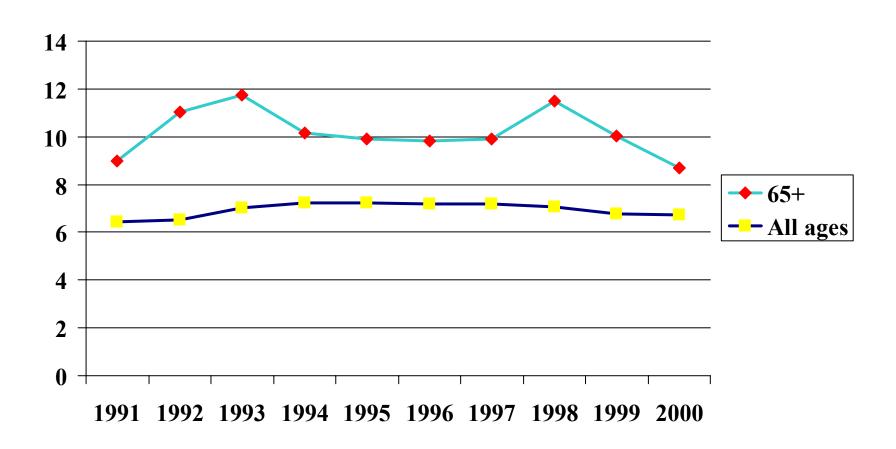
# Suicide rate, 15-24 years and all ages, New Jersey, 1991-2000



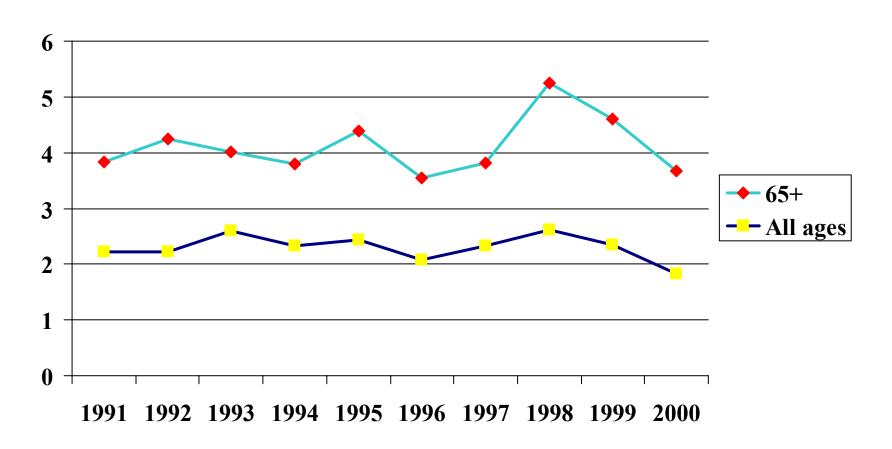
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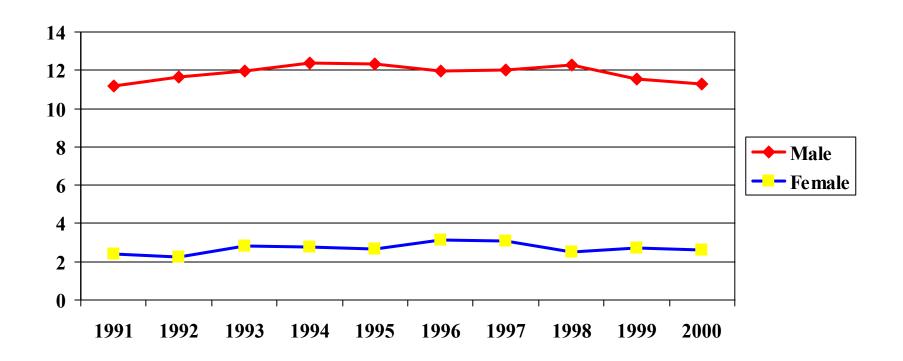
#### Suicide rate, ages 65+ years and all ages, New Jersey, 1991-2000



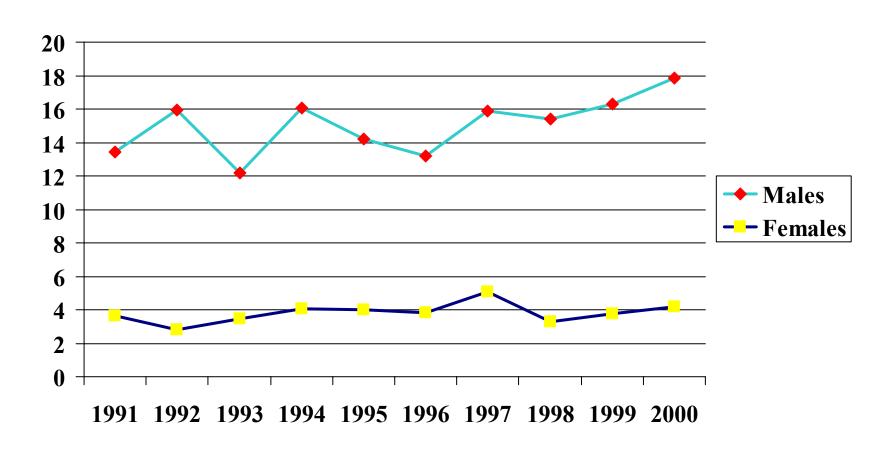
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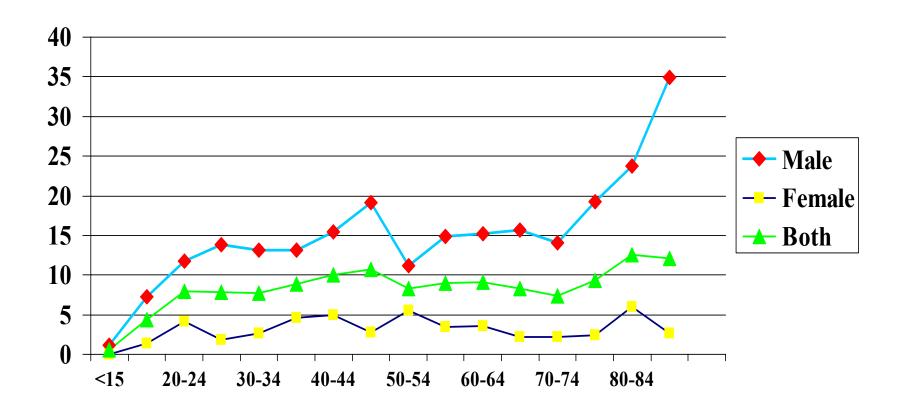
#### Suicide rate by gender, New Jersey, 1991-2000



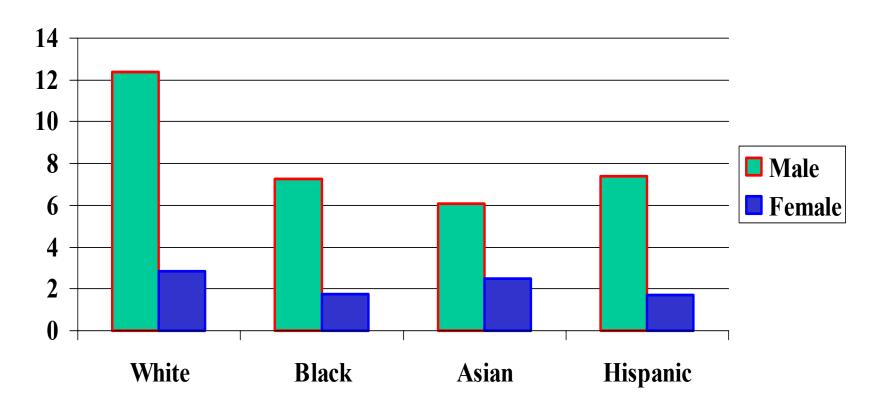
### Suicide rate, ages 40-49 years, males and females, New Jersey, 1991-2000



### Suicide rates by gender and age, New Jersey, 1999-2000



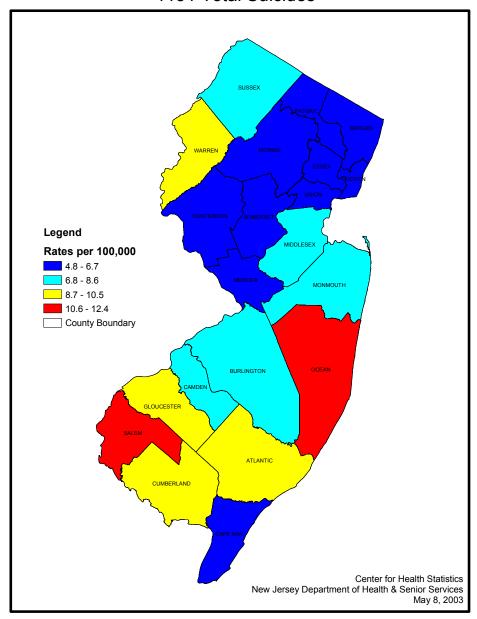
# Age-adjusted suicide rates by race and gender, New Jersey, 1999-2000



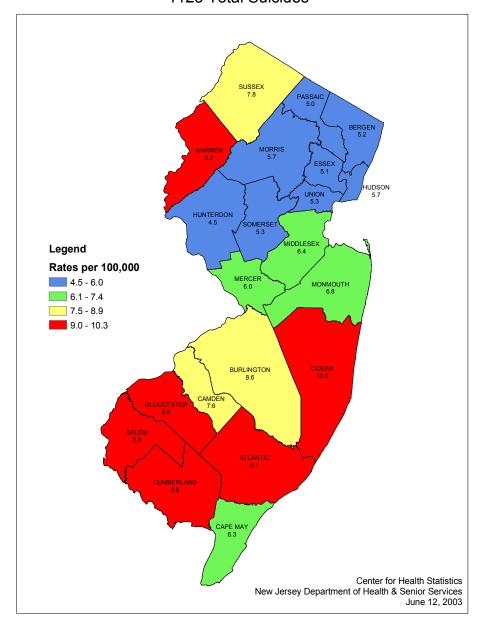
#### Age-adjusted county suicide rates, 1999-2000

County	Rate	% Firearm	County	Rate	% Firearm
Atlantic	9.1	27.7%	Middlesex	6.4	29.6%
Bergen	5.2	22.7%	Monmouth	6.8	25.3%
Burlington	8.6	48.0%	Morris	5.7	31.5%
Camden	7.6	26.0%	Ocean	10.3	36.0%
Cape May	6.3	30.8%	Passaic	5.0	37.5%
Cumberland	9.6	57.1%	Salem	9.9	38.5%
Essex	5.1	27.5%	Somerset	5.3	32.3%
Gloucester	9.8	34.0%	Sussex	7.8	50.0%
Hudson	5.7	14.7%	Union	5.3	26.8%
Hunterdon	4.5	54.5%	Warren	9.2	25.0%
Mercer	6.0	30.2%			

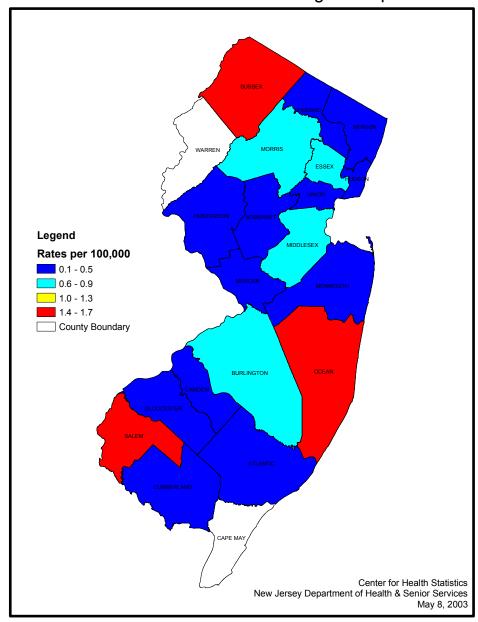
#### New Jersey Resident Suicides Rates - 1999, 2000 1131 Total Suicides



#### New Jersey Resident Suicides Rates - 1999, 2000 1123 Total Suicides



#### New Jersey Resident Suicides Rates - 1999, 2000 90 Total Suicides in 65-74 Age Group

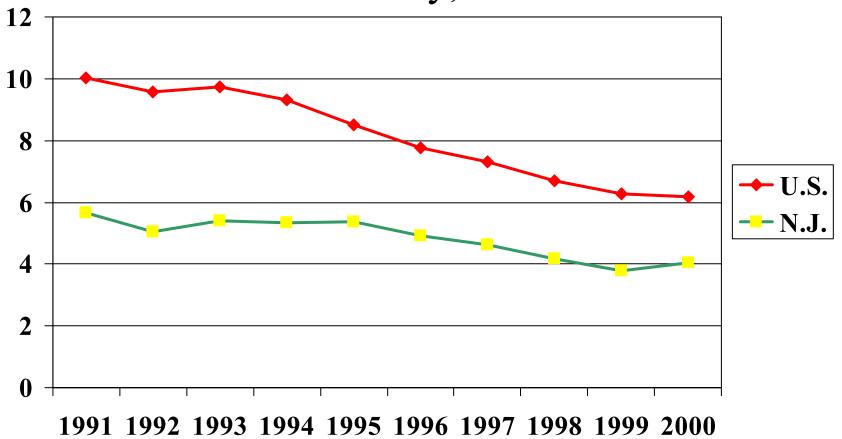


	Mechanism of Suicide							
								Percent
					All Other		Ave Rate*,	using
County	Firearm	Suffocation	Poisoning	Fall	Mechanisms	Total	all mech.	Firearm
Atlantic	13	14	9	8	3	47	9.3	27.7%
Bergen	22	32	21	8	14	97	5.5	22.7%
Burlington	36	20	12	3	4	75	8.9	48.0%
Camden	20	19	24	6	8	77	7.6	26.0%
Cape May	4	3	6	0	0	13	6.4	30.8%
Cumberland	16	4	2	1	5	28	9.6	57.1%
Essex	22	26	14	10	8	80	5.0	27.5%
Gloucester	17	15	16	1	1	50	9.8	34.0%
Hudson	10	37	9	5	7	68	5.6	14.7%
Hunterdon	6	2	2	0	1	11	4.5	54.5%
Mercer	13	20	8	0	2	43	6.1	30.2%
Middlesex	29	26	22	6	15	98	6.5	29.6%
Monmouth	21	28	16	5	13	83	6.7	25.3%
Morris	17	14	12	3	8	54	5.7	31.5%
Ocean	40	34	28	1	8	111	10.9	36.0%
Passaic	18	16	6	2	6	48	4.9	37.5%
Salem	5	5	3	0	0	13	10.1	38.5%
Somerset	10	11	6	0	4	31	5.2	32.3%
Sussex	10	5	4	0	1	20	6.9	50.0%
Union	15	19	15	2	5	56	5.4	26.8%
Warren	5	4	7	0	4	20	9.8	25.0%
Total	349	354	242	61	117	1123	6.7	31.1%

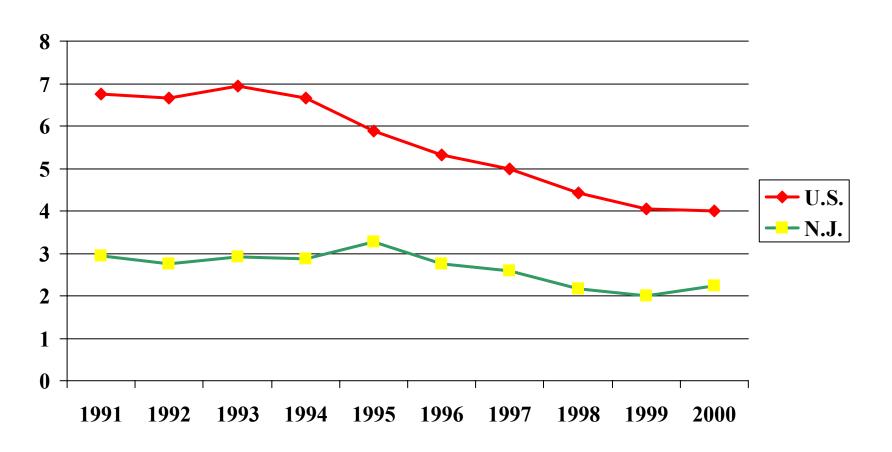
#### Homicides

- Includes homicide and legal intervention
- Legal intervention as a percent of all homicides, 1991-2000
  - United States, 1.60% of homicide deaths were legal intervention
  - New Jersey, 1.45% were legal intervention

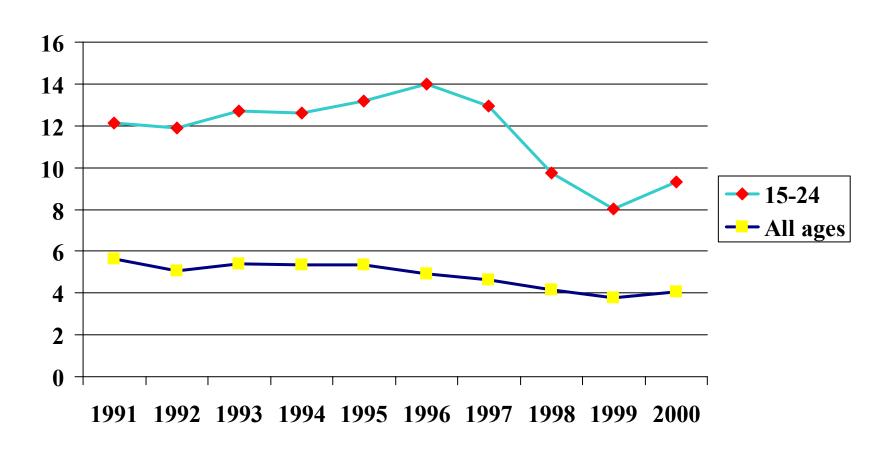
### Age-adjusted homicide rate, United States and New Jersey, 1991-2000



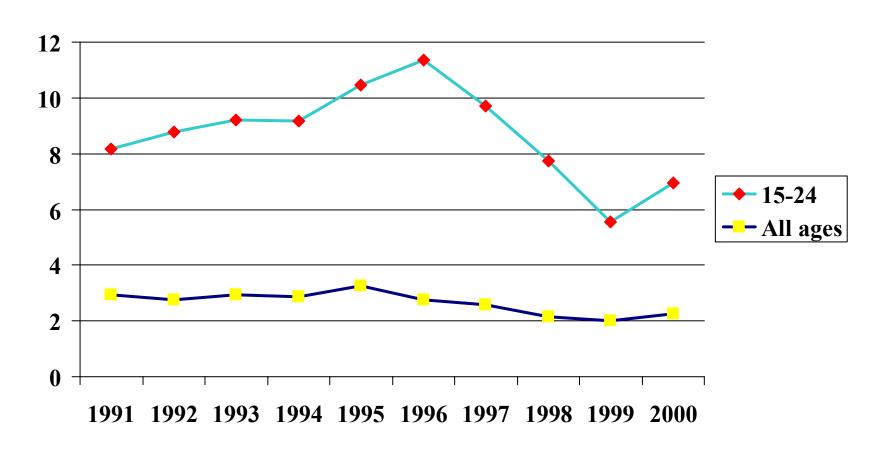
### Age-adjusted firearm homicide rate, United States and New Jersey, 1991-2000



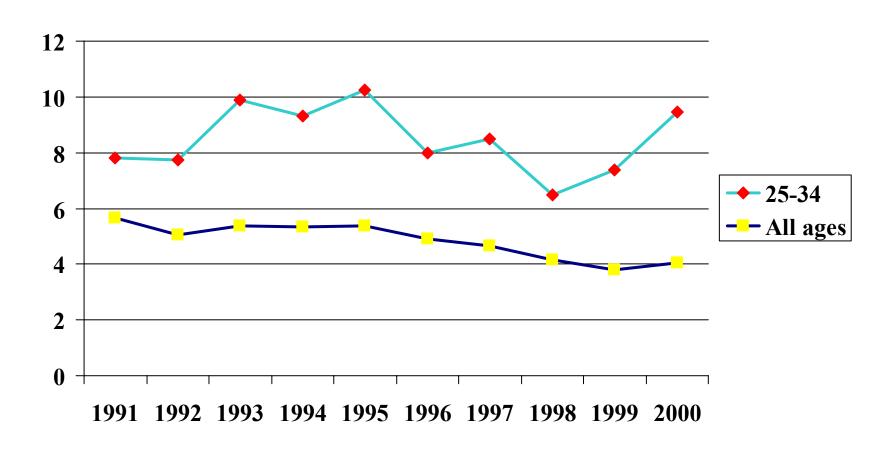
### Homicide rate, 15-24 years and all ages, New Jersey, 1991-2000



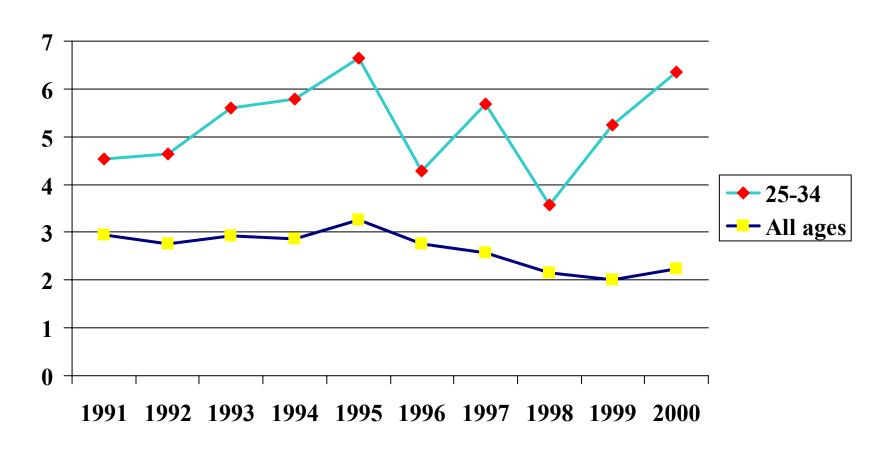
# Firearm homicide rate, 15-24 years and all ages, New Jersey, 1991-2000



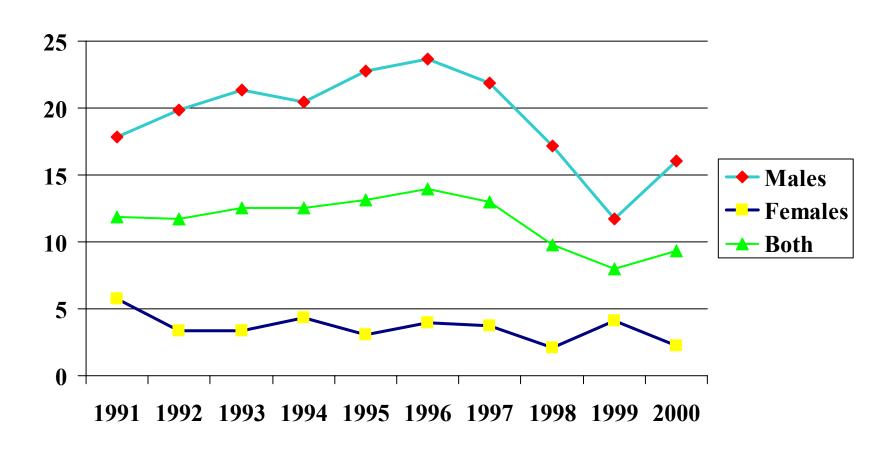
### Homicide rate, ages 25-34 years and all ages, New Jersey, 1991-2000



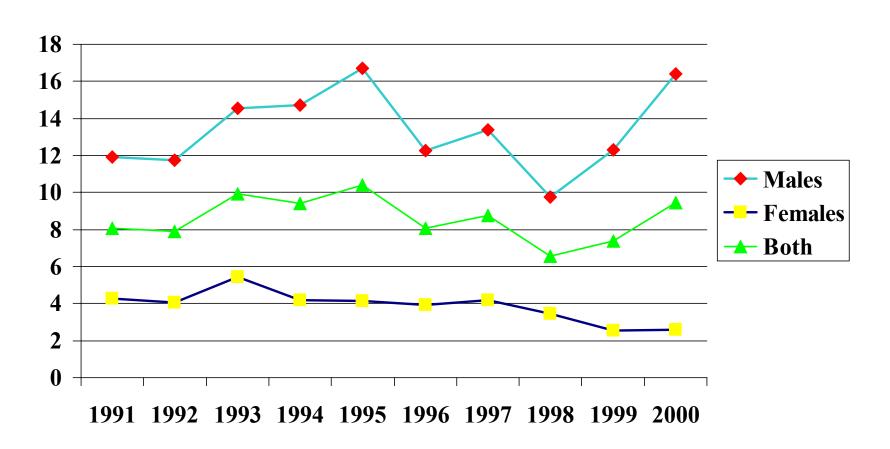
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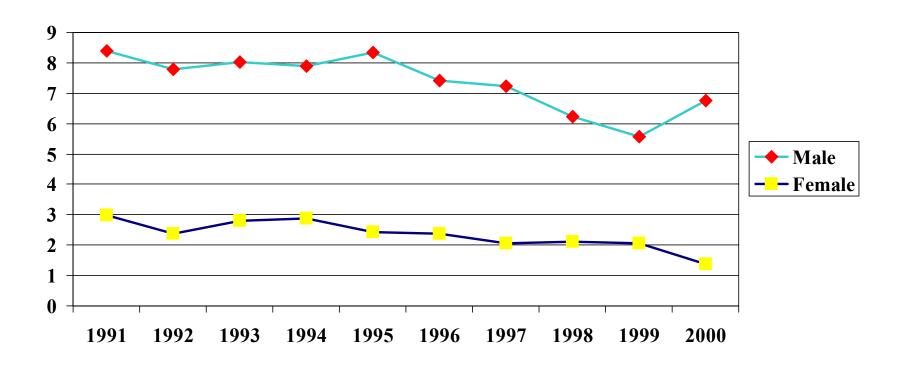
### Homicide rate, ages 15-24 years, males and females, New Jersey, 1991-2000



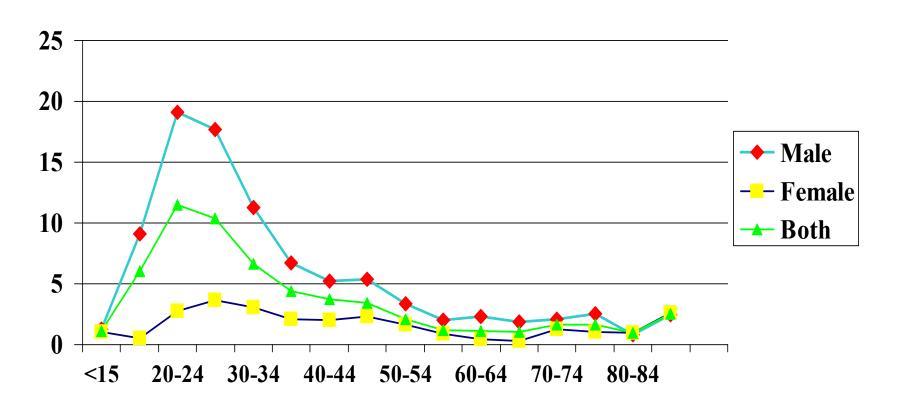
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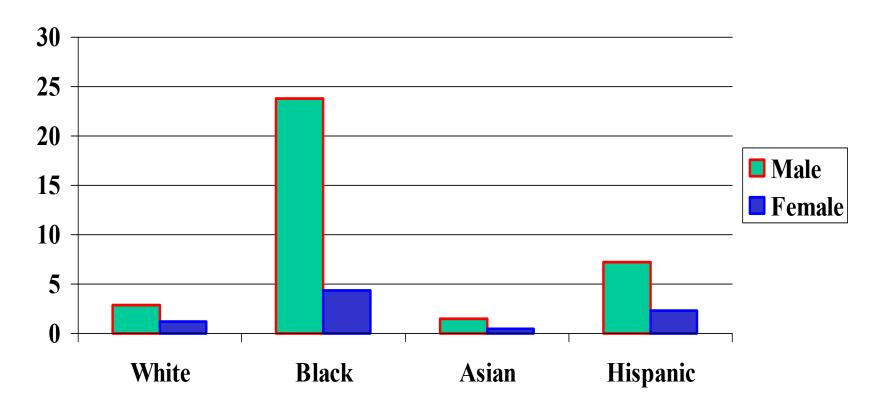
Homicide rate by gender, New Jersey, 1991-2000



## Homicide rates by gender and age, New Jersey, 1999-2000



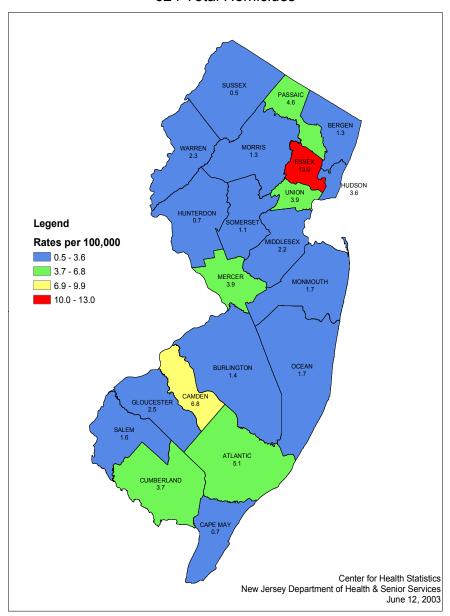
# Age-adjusted homicide rates by race and gender, New Jersey, 1999-2000



### Age-adjusted county homicide rates, 1999-2000

County	Rate	% Firearm	County	Rate	% Firearm
Atlantic	5.1	50.0 %	Middlesex	2.2	27.3%
Bergen	1.3	21.7%	Monmouth	1.7	50.0%
Burlington	1.4	66.7%	Morris	1.3	18.2%
Camden	6.8	71.0%	Ocean	1.7	31.3%
Cape May	0.7	100.0%	Passaic	4.6	47.8%
Cumberland	3.7	9.1%	Salem	1.6	0.0%
Essex	13.0	66.7%	Somerset	1.1	66.7%
Gloucester	2.5	23.1%	Sussex	0.5	0.0%
Hudson	3.6	45.8%	Union	3.9	38.5%
Hunterdon	0.7	0.0%	Warren	2.3	80.0%
Mercer	3.9	50.0%			

#### New Jersey Resident Homicide Rates - 1999, 2000 624 Total Homicides



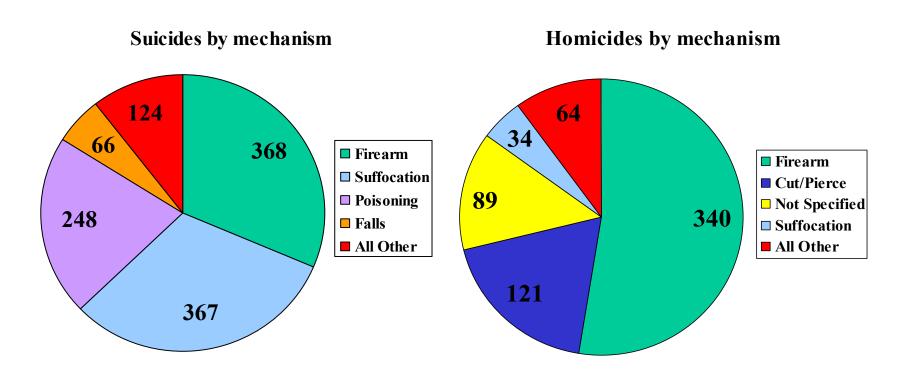
	Mechanism of Suicide							
					All Other			Percent
			Not		Mechanism		Ave Rate*,	using
County	Firearm	Cut/Pierce	Specified	Suffocation	S	Total	all mech.	Firearm
Atlantic	11	5	4	1	1	22	4.4	50.0%
Bergen	5	7	2	3	6	23	1.3	21.7%
Burlington	8	3	1	0	0	12	1.4	66.7%
Camden	49	4	4	3	9	69	6.8	71.0%
Cape May	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.5	100.0%
Cumberland	1	3	4	1	2	11	3.8	9.1%
Essex	140	31	23	4	12	210	13.2	66.7%
Gloucester	3	3	5	1	1	13	2.6	23.1%
Hudson	22	10	8	4	4	48	3.9	45.8%
Hunterdon	0	0	1	0	1	2	0.8	0.0%
Mercer	14	5	4	2	3	28	4.0	50.0%
Middlesex	9	8	7	2	7	33	2.2	27.3%
Monmouth	10	6	1	1	2	20	1.6	50.0%
Morris	2	2	5	1	1	11	1.2	18.2%
Ocean	5	6	4	1	0	16	1.6	31.3%
Passaic	22	12	3	1	8	46	4.7	47.8%
Salem	0	0	2	0	0	2	1.6	0.0%
Somerset	4	1	0	1	0	6	1.0	66.7%
Sussex	0	0	0	1	0	1	0.3	0.0%
Union	15	12	7	2	3	39	3.7	38.5%
Warren	4	0	1	0	0	5	2.4	80.0%
Total	325	118	86	29	60	618	3.7	52.6%

# Suicide and homicide by mechanism, New Jersey, 1999-2000

Includes both NJ resident and occurrent deaths

Mechanism	Suicide	Mechanism	Homicide			
Poisoning	248	Firearm	340			
Suffocation	367	Cut/Pierce	121			
Firearm	368	Not Spec'd	89			
Fall	66	Suffocation	34			
All Other	124	All Other	64			
Mechs		Mechs				
Total	1173	Total	648			
106 Undetermined Intent Poisoning Deaths						

### Suicide and homicide by mechanism, New Jersey, 1999-2000



Total suicides = 1173

Total homicides = 648

### Preliminary data on 2003 events

- Includes both resident and occurrent deaths
- Captures multiple victim incidents and the relationships between victims and suspects

### 2003 NJ events, preliminary

Based on certificates collected through 6/5/03:

- 96 identified as homicide
- 114 identified as suicide
- 10 identified as undetermined intent
- 271 still pending (may be any cause of death, but many of these are anticipated to be suicides)

#### 2003 NJ events to date

- 4 incidents totaling 12 deaths are multiple homicides
  - 4 of these deaths are children 8 and under
- 2.7% of victims are under 12 years old
  - All homicides
- 5.9% are between 13-19 years old
  - 8 homicides, 5 suicides

#### 2003 NJ events to date

- 10.5% of victims are over 65
  - 19 of 23 deaths are suicides
  - 4 are homicides
- 41.4% of deaths involved a firearm
  - 64.7% of gun deaths are homicides
  - 35.2% of gun deaths are suicides

### Monthly breakdown

- January 2003: 41 homicides, 37 suicides,
  79 pending
- February 2003: 27 homicides, 47 suicides, 90 pending
- March 2003: 25 homicides, 23 suicides, 65 pending
- April 2003: 3 homicides, 7 suicides, 15 pending

### Monthly Breakdown, 2003

	Suicides	Homicides	Pending
January	37	41	79
February	47	27	90
March	23	25	65
April	7	3	15